IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Cruchet, et al.

Serial No.

Please Assign

Filed

Herewith

For

HIP PROSTHESIS

Art Unit

To be assigned

Examiner

To be assigned

January 30, 2004

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

MS: Patent Application

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service by Express Mail No. EV 331558968 US in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to prosecution on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: